



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE ARRESTS PREDATOR LIVING IN PUERTO RICO

Predator admitted into the country on a religious worker visa is now facing removal from the U.S.

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico—A 46-year-old Mexican national convicted of lewd and lascivious acts against a 14-year-old minor was arrested here today by special agents of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Jaime Martinez Gonzalez was admitted into the United States on March 9, 2004 as a nonimmigrant religious worker with authorization to remain in the country until Nov. 9, 2004. Martinez-Gonzalez, who was arrested by officers of the Puerto Rico Police Department on Nov. 3, 2004, was convicted in a superior court in Puerto Rico on Feb. 8, 2005.

Martinez-Gonzalez is facing deportation from the United States by virtue of his criminal conviction under Section 237 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

“Criminals who are amenable to removal who think that they will be allowed to remain in the United States upon the completion of their sentences are mistaken,” said Lydia St. John-Mellado, acting special agent-in-charge of ICE in Puerto Rico. “Those who hurt our children will be identified, processed and removed from the United States.”

Martinez-Gonzalez is in ICE custody at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico.

His arrest is part of a nationwide initiative known as Operation Predator. Operation Predator protects our children from sexual predators, including those who travel across continents to have sex with minors. Internet child pornographers and criminal alien sex offenders and child traffickers are also a priority for ICE. Since the initiative was launched in July of 2003, there have been more than 5,730 individuals arrested nationwide.

ICE encourages anyone who wants to report suspicious activity of suspected child predators and suspicious activity through our toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. Investigators staff this hotline around the clock.

Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.